



# AMERICAN OBSERVER

News and Issues—With Pros and Cons

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## Here and Abroad

People—Places—Events

### MAN REPLACED BY SCIENCE

Most airplane spotting posts across the nation, long manned by dedicated men and women of the Ground Observer Corps (GOC), are now vacant. The GOC, made up of unpaid volunteers who worked under Air Force supervision, is going out of business next month.

The Air Force says it no longer needs the aircraft spotters because more efficient radar and electronic-brain warning systems are taking over the task of scanning the skies for enemy planes. The entire nation is grateful for the vital job performed by GOC members.

### CHRISTMAS IN WASHINGTON

A 75-foot spruce from the Kootenai National Forest near Libby, Montana, will be the central feature of this year's Pageant of Peace to be held in the nation's capital during the holidays. The tree, tallest ever used in the Washington festival, was 99 feet high when it stood in the forest. It had to be cut down in size for its 2,490-mile trip to the nation's capital.

On December 23, President Eisenhower is scheduled to light the giant tree. From then through January 1, bands and choral groups from many nations will appear each day to offer special music and other programs.

### LOWER FOOD PRICES IN '59?

Our grocery bills are likely to go down a bit in 1959, says the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The reason is that most foods are expected to be so plentiful next year that prices will drop. Many kinds of meat, as well as eggs and vegetables, are likely to be especially good buys.

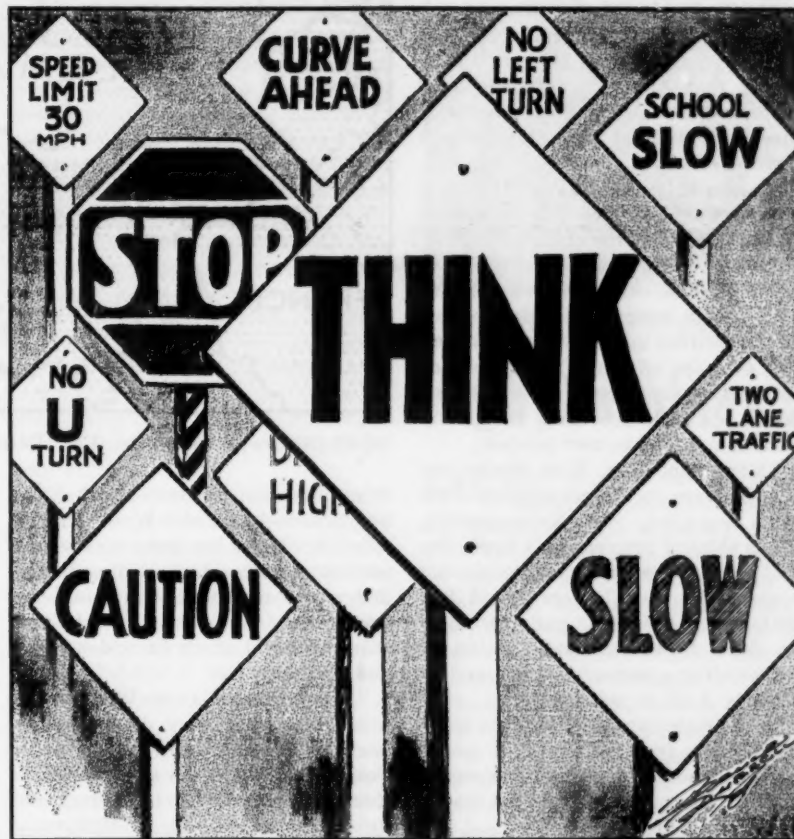
### STUDY GROUP ON AID

Next March, a special bipartisan study group will give a preliminary report to the President on American aid needed by other nations. The body, recently set up by the White House, is headed by William Draper, 64. He has served on many important overseas missions for the U. S. government since World War II.

### THOR ON GUARD

In a quiet meadow near the English village of Feltwell, there are unusual concrete structures that barely rise above the ground. At a moment's notice, the structures can open up and reveal a gleaming 55-ton monster that points toward the sky. It is the Thor missile, capable of taking a nuclear device to an enemy target some 1,500 miles away in a matter of minutes.

The missile base near Feltwell is the first of several being set up jointly by Britain and the United States under an agreement signed last winter. The launching pads are being built by Britain, while the Thors are supplied by Uncle Sam.



IF EVERY DRIVER would keep before him a mental sign to **THINK** and be alert at all times, most car-accident tragedies could be avoided. Other traffic signs, helpful as they can be, are of no use when they are unseen or ignored by the person who either fails to keep his mind on driving or who is reckless and disregardful of human life. Make sure that you are a careful, thinking driver.

## Better Drivers Needed

U. S. Traffic Officials Are Making Great Efforts to Educate Both Drivers and Pedestrians on Problems of Safety

"IT is pleasant to meet you here in a classroom—and not from my motorcycle while handing out a ticket for speeding, or at a hospital while checking a car accident.

"While we are here this evening, 12 persons probably will die in traffic mishaps across the nation. I am here to talk to you about ways to safer driving."

Thus does the instructor—a policeman out of uniform—open a class in the Oakland, California, school for traffic violators. Most of the students are adults who have broken driving rules. They are among some 75,000 citizens of Oakland who have been sent to the school in the 6 years since it was opened in 1952.

Oakland officials are convinced that education—rather than just a fine for traffic lawbreakers—offers the greatest hope of saving lives. Officials of some 150 other U. S. cities with traffic safety courses feel the same way.

These schools are among numerous projects undertaken by Americans in an effort to reduce tragedies on our highways and streets. Last year alone, 38,500 persons were killed in traffic accidents in this country, and 1,400,000 were injured. Financial losses totaled nearly 5½ billion dollars.

To find out what is being done in the anti-accident war, the writer of

this article asked officials in various localities the following 2 questions:

*What is being done in your city to promote traffic safety? How effective does your effort seem to be?*

Below are summaries of the answers received:

**Detroit, Michigan** (population 1,905,000). In this leading center of automobile production, traffic deaths dropped from 227 in 1955 to 179 in 1957. Officials estimate that the city's safety campaigns have saved 1,000 lives in the past 10 years.

Strict law enforcement is given as one reason for Detroit's success in reducing accidents. Both drivers and pedestrians are liable to arrest for traffic misdeeds. About 1 of every 3 drivers convicted of a serious offense gets a jail sentence.

Detroit also credits education for aiding safety campaigns. Young people up to the age of 18 are required by Michigan state law to take a course in driving before obtaining a license to operate a car. Nearly 100,000 Detroiters above age 18 go voluntarily to police-directed traffic schools for first training—or refresher courses—each year.

Detroit has the customary safety patrol program for school areas, and

(Concluded on page 6)

## The Full Story of West Berlin

How Should Free World React To Khrushchev's Plan For "Free City"?

ONE topic above all others is expected to occupy free-world statesmen as they meet in Europe this week. At the conference of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) getting started tomorrow—December 16—in Paris and at a number of other high-level meetings, the Russian proposal to make West Berlin a "free city" will be thoroughly discussed.

Ever since Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev put forth the plan late last month, free-world leaders have been trying to figure out what his real intentions are.

In brief, Khrushchev asked that West Berlin (where the United States, Great Britain, and France have occupation forces) be made an unarmed, free city. (A free city would presumably be independent, free from the control of any nation.) East Berlin would continue to be a part of communist East Germany.

The Soviet leader warned that if the western troops were not withdrawn in 6 months, Russia would go ahead to put the plan into effect. It would then turn over to the communist government of East Germany the job of policing the routes that the western forces use in moving people and supplies to and from West Berlin.

The roots of the Berlin controversy are found in events of World War II. **Occupied Germany.** During World War II, the United States, Britain, France, and the Soviet Union were allies in the struggle against Hitler's Germany. As the war ended in 1945, the victorious armies of the Big Four nations had driven deep into Germany.

Advancing from the east, Russian forces had taken over Berlin. Many of our military men felt that U. S. troops, advancing from the west, could have beaten the Red Army to Berlin if they had not been ordered to stop and await the Russians.

Military commanders of the 4 invading nations agreed to divide the conquered land into occupation zones. The United States, Britain, and France took over sectors in western Germany. Russia's occupation zone was in eastern Germany.

Berlin was given a special status. Though completely surrounded by the Soviet occupation zone, the capital city of the defeated country was occupied by troops of each of the Big Four.

Military leaders of these countries agreed to the plan. Later at the Potsdam Conference, where Russia's Stalin met with U. S. President Harry Truman and with British Prime Minister Clement Attlee, the basic idea of separate occupation zones—both in Berlin

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# The Berlin Story

(Concluded from page 1)

and in Germany as a whole—met with general approval.

At that time, it was felt the occupation of Germany would not last very long—only until a permanent peace treaty could be drawn up. But as it became evident that the Soviet Union was out to extend communist control into central Europe and elsewhere, relations between Russia and the western allies hardened. The occupation of Germany continued.

**Berlin airlift.** To transport their troops and supplies into Berlin—110 miles inside the Soviet occupation zone—the western allies were given access to certain routes of entry. On designated highways, railroad lines, and canal systems, the Russians set up stations to check on all traffic. Air corridors were also agreed upon.

In 1948, the Soviet Union tried precisely what it is attempting to do now—that is, to force the western powers out of Berlin. It did so by breaking its previous agreements and stopping all land and water traffic into West Berlin.

The United States, Britain, and France immediately established a gigantic airlift into the city. Planes, following precise schedules, carried into West Berlin tons of food, fuel, and other essentials. The airlift kept the Soviet blockade from being effective, and became a spectacular triumph for the western powers. In 1949, the Russians lifted the blockade.

Since the airlift ended, there had been no major attempt to push the western powers out of Berlin until Khrushchev's present campaign.

**Berlin today.** What is this divided city like today? West Berlin, which takes in about 55% of the area of the former German capital is still a little free-world "island" surrounded by communist territory. Politically it is regarded as a part of West Germany, the free republic headed by Chancellor Konrad Adenauer.

With well-stocked shops, broad avenues, brightly lighted streets, and impressive new buildings, West Berlin has a prosperous appearance. Its 2,200,000 people are living much better than the inhabitants of East Berlin.

Visitors to the communist section of

the city usually remark on its drab appearance and evidences of hard times. Now regarded as a part of the communist state of East Germany, it has a population of about 1,175,000.

People move back and forth between East and West Berlin without much interference, though East German sentries are always on the watch for anyone fleeing permanently from the communist zone into the western sectors. Berlin is the terminus of the favorite flight route of refugees from East Germany. Since 1949, it is estimated that 3,000,000 refugees have entered West Berlin from the east. Most of them later went on into free-world lands.

**Communist stakes.** Why has Khrushchev launched his campaign against West Berlin at this time?

"For a variety of reasons," say free-world officials. "For one thing, it has always been communist policy to keep trouble stirred up. Now that the conflict over the offshore Chinese islands in the Far East seems to be quieting down, the Reds are using the Berlin situation to create new tension.

"More important, West Berlin has been a thorn in the communists' side for a long time. With its prosperity, it is a shining example—far inside the Red zone—of what a free people can accomplish. Red leaders would like nothing better than to pull West Berlin down to the economic status of surrounding communist areas, and to stop the flood of refugees.

"If Khrushchev could force the western powers from this city, it would boost communist prestige everywhere. It would strengthen the Soviet leader in his determination to unite East and West Germany on communist terms—that is, without the democratic elections which the free-world powers demand. In fact, one of Khrushchev's major aims may be to use his demands as a bargaining point for negotiations regarding West Germany's growing military strength and other issues that don't directly relate to Berlin."

**Free-world stakes.** For the western powers, the stakes are at least equally as high as they are for Russia. U. S. officials declare:

"If we should withdraw our troops from West Berlin, we would be breaking the agreements we made right after the war. We would, in effect, be turning the people of West Berlin over to the Reds. Does anyone seriously



BERLIN, inside communist East Germany, is 110 miles from West Germany

think that Khrushchev would honor his 'promise' to make West Berlin a 'free city'? He has gone back on the postwar agreements regarding Berlin, and would not hesitate a minute to break other agreements, as he and other Soviet leaders have done time and again.

"A withdrawal from West Berlin would be a shattering defeat for democracy in West Germany. It would weaken the hand of our ally, Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, in his determined fight against communism. Free-world peoples in other parts of the globe where Red pressure is strong (South Korea, Taiwan, etc.) would lose faith in us. Democracy would decline.

"Actually Khrushchev is trying to end only a part of the agreement that he does not like. The same military agreement of 1945 also provided that U. S. and British troops withdraw from areas they held along the Elbe River and turn them over to the Russians. Let's ask Khrushchev to end that part of the agreement, and return U. S. and British troops into large areas of present-day East Germany!"

"Of course, the Soviet ruler would not agree to this. Bringing it up would, however, call to world attention just how false his demands are. At any rate, the United States and its allies have made it clear that they have no intention of abandoning West Berlin."

**Western dilemma.** As has already been noted, Khrushchev threatens to go ahead and put his plan into effect in 6 months if the western occupation powers do not get out of Berlin by then. At that time, Soviet officials will be withdrawn from check points on the entrance routes to Berlin, he says. The western powers would then have to deal with East German officials, whose country they do not recognize but regard as a "puppet state" of Russia.

Some Americans are strongly opposed to dealing with the East German officials. They think it would imply recognition of a regime that we do not regard as legal.

Other U. S. officials feel that this point of view is extreme. They point out that we have had dealings with communist China in Geneva, though we don't officially recognize that government. They say that we would not have to recognize the East German government just because of brief deal-

ings with their officials at check points into West Berlin, especially if we made it plain that we considered them as agents of the Russians.

**2 possible courses.** Wholly apart from the side issue of recognition of East Germany, 2 different approaches are being considered on how to meet the Khrushchev proposal.

Some western officials think that we should stand pat, refuse to negotiate—since we are in the right legally and morally—and continue to hold our position in West Berlin.

These officials say that if land and water routes to West Berlin are blocked, then we should start another airlift to supply the 11,000 western troops in that city. They point out that East and West Germany recently signed an agreement to allow normal civilian supplies to go into West Berlin. This agreement—if observed—would mean that only the military garrison would be blockaded. Military officials say an airlift could easily supply the occupation forces with food, fuel, and other essentials.

The airlift proposal assumes that the communists would not go so far as to shoot down our planes. Such a step would undoubtedly bring on war. While the Reds are bent on stirring up trouble, it is generally felt that they want to avoid outright armed conflict.

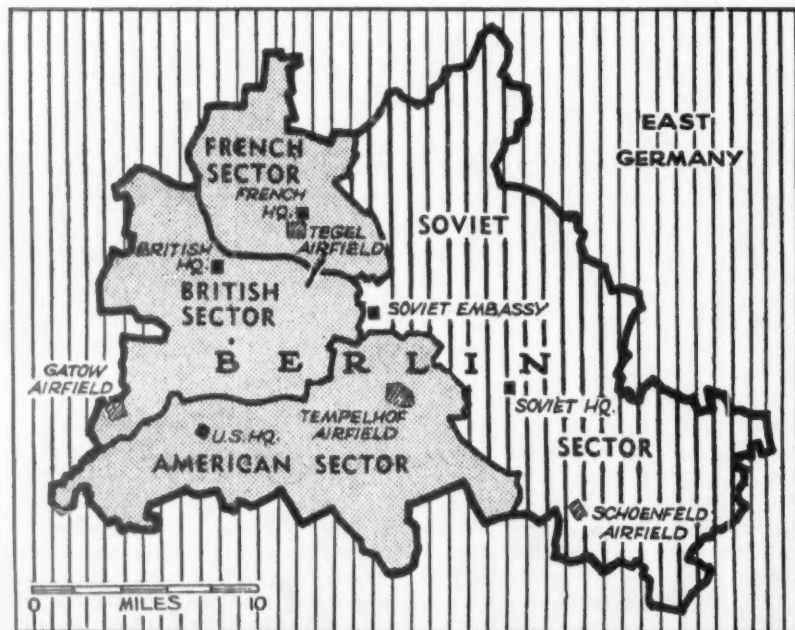
Other western officials feel that we should not take a completely inflexible stand on negotiations. They favor talking the whole matter over with the communists. Here is what they say:

"We have nothing to lose by entering into negotiations with Khrushchev. Such discussions might clear the picture a great deal as to what his real reasons are for making the Berlin demands. Moreover, first-hand negotiations might make unmistakably plain to the communists that we are not going to abandon West Berlin—and possibly influence them to change their position.

"Remember, if the negotiations do not accomplish anything, we can still resort to an airlift. Nevertheless, there is a possibility—be it ever so slight—that a conference on West Berlin might accomplish something."

In coming weeks, President Eisenhower, the State Department, and Congress will devote much time to the issue of West Berlin.

—By HOWARD SWEET



HOW BERLIN IS DIVIDED. Three airports in free western zones were used to bring in coal and food when Russia closed land routes to West Germany in the 1948-49 blockade. Soviet-controlled airport is shown in East Berlin.



# U. S. from 1900 to 1959

## Time of Great Progress and Challenge

THE United States can measure astounding progress during this 20th century in which we live. Within a comparatively short time—less than 60 years—we have made our way from the steam age to the era of the automobile, the airplane, atomic-hydrogen power, and rockets in space. We have also moved into a position of powerful leadership in the free world, and this has brought complex and dangerous problems.

We had, it is true, taken over Puerto Rico and the Philippines after our war with Spain, purchased Alaska from Russia, and acquired Hawaii late in the 19th century. These territorial responsibilities weighed upon the nation lightly for the most part, however, for Americans were mainly concerned with national affairs at the outset of the 20th century, which began officially in 1901.

### Unforeseen Developments

We did not then dream that we would fight in 2 world wars. None could foresee the rise of communism, which was an unknown theory for most people in 1901. None would have thought that leaders of this movement would take over Russia, as was done in 1917. Yet today Russian-style communism is a great threat to peace and freedom.

This century has brought atomic-hydrogen energy. We are presently beginning to use atomic energy as power for factories and other peacetime purposes. Hydrogen bombs can provide the greatest destructive power in war that the world has known, and efforts to end the danger of such conflict by agreement are being made by the United States and other lands.

Worries over such dangers did not trouble Americans as Vice President Theodore Roosevelt became our Chief Executive upon the assassination of President William McKinley in the fall of 1901. Getting ahead in a peaceful nation was the big concern of most people—including future Presidents Herbert Hoover, then a young civil engineer in China; Harry Truman, a 17-year-old student; and 11-year-old Dwight Eisenhower.

Our country in 1901 was made up of 45 states and around 76,000,000 people. Oklahoma became the 46th state in 1907, New Mexico and Arizona the 47th and 48th in 1912. By 1920 our population had crossed the 100,000,000

mark; this year it is 175,000,000. There were just over 600,000 high school students in 1901, as compared to nearly 9,000,000 now.

The whole country had fewer than 10,000 cars in 1900, and most people considered them a rich man's toy. Roads, mostly of dirt, were built for the horse and buggy, and were hazardous for cars. There are some 65,000,000 automobiles, trucks, and buses today. We have paved highways, but heavy traffic makes them dangerous.

The Wright brothers made their first successful airplane flight in 1903. Development came quickly then, and the airplane was used in World War I. Round-the-world travel is common in fast planes today. Farmers and businessmen in growing numbers use their own private aircraft for commercial and pleasure trips. Now we are aiming rockets at the moon, and may send a man into space before too long a time.

The movies were just catching on in 1901. Marconi sent his first coded wireless message across the Atlantic that year. The first broadcast of voice and music was in 1906, but it wasn't until the 1920's that radio got under way as the commercial venture we know. Television has made its tremendous growth since 1945.

### Wide Use of Electricity

Electricity was just becoming available generally at the century's start; today, it carries light to farms as well as cities, provides heat in some homes, and powers refrigerators, irons, toasters, and numerous other appliances in a way that few could foresee in 1900.

Similarly, the telephone has developed, and now easily carries conversation even to foreign lands.

In 1900, the average child could look forward to a life span of less than 50 years; the average American's life expectancy today is around 70 years. Reasons for this are improvement in hygiene, and new medical discoveries—such as radium for treating cancer; the "wonder drugs"; Salk vaccine.

With all the changes that have come about, life is far more comfortable than it was. However, the oceans on our coasts may no longer be looked upon as good protection from enemies. In this age of rockets and planes, our nation is much more vulnerable to attack than it was a comparatively few years ago. —By TOM HAWKINS



LAWYER IN COURT presenting his side of case before a jury

## High Earnings for Top Lawyers

MR. Jones is served with an order to appear in court. His neighbor is suing him for injuries received when he stumbled over a tricycle left on the sidewalk by Jones's children. Because he knows he might suffer heavy financial losses if the court decides against him, Mr. Jones quickly calls on his lawyer for help.

Handling such legal cases as this one is only part of a lawyer's job. He may act as guardian of an estate, defend men and women accused of a crime, negotiate the settlement of disputes out of court, prepare draft legislation for members of Congress or local lawmakers, or perform countless other tasks relating to legal matters.

Most lawyers are engaged in general practice and handle all kinds of legal work for their clients, representing them in court when necessary. A growing number of persons trained in this profession, though, specialize in certain branches of law. Some handle cases involving labor disputes. Others take care of legal matters for corporations or other business firms. Still others specialize in patents on inventions, real estate matters, taxes, or government problems.

Many persons with legal training do not practice law in the strict sense of the term. Often, they find positions in business, industry, or government where their legal training is an asset, though their work is not directly connected with law. Sometimes they teach in law schools or turn to politics as a career. In fact, many members of Congress and other government officials are lawyers. Of our Presidents, 21 were trained in law.

**Qualifications.** For success as a lawyer, you should be able to speak and write clearly. According to a noted law teacher, good character, common sense, self-reliance, and the ability to think logically are "musts" in this field.

**Training.** You will need at least 2 years of general college study, though a growing number of law schools require 4 years of pre-legal work after high school. The legal course, leading to a degree in law (LL.B.), requires some 3 years of study to finish.

After you get your law degree, and before you can practice, you must be admitted to the bar in your state. Requirements for admission vary from state to state, but usually an applicant must pass a difficult written examina-

tion in addition to having a law degree. A high percentage of those taking such tests fail to pass them. Full information on your state's requirements may be obtained from the Clerk of the Supreme Court in the state capital.

Though a majority of lawyers are men, women can also find good career opportunities in this field.

**Earnings.** As a beginning law clerk, you may earn as little as \$40 or \$50 a week. Experienced lawyers have incomes averaging about \$10,000 a year. There are, however, wide variations of earnings among lawyers. Some seldom make more than a few thousand a year, while others earn as much as \$50,000 to \$100,000 annually.

**Facts to weigh.** The work is highly stimulating and offers great opportunities to serve your fellow men. Also, the material rewards can be high.

But the competition for jobs and clients is very keen in this field. Unless you have the necessary qualities to be a good lawyer, your chances for real success in this work are slim.

**More information.** Talk to nearby lawyers and write to the American Bar Association, 1155 East 60th Street, Chicago 37, Illinois.

—By ANTON BERLE

### Berlin's Mayor

Willy Brandt, mayor of West Berlin, is determined to keep his city free despite threats from Moscow (see story beginning on page 1).

Born Herbert Frahm 45 years ago this week, the West Berlin mayor took his present name when he fled from nazi Germany to Norway in the 1930's. He changed his name to help elude his nazi pursuers, after campaigning against the Adolf Hitler movement.

Mr. Brandt became a Norwegian citizen and continued to work actively against the nazi system until the outbreak of World War II. After the war, he returned to Germany and regained his former citizenship. He was then chosen to serve in the West Berlin lawmaking body, and became mayor of the old German capital last year.

The West Berlin mayor has a Norwegian wife and 2 sons. He speaks Norwegian at home, while using his native German on official business. He also speaks fluent English, and made many friends while on a visit to America nearly a year ago.



BETTER LIVING CONDITIONS—and complex, dangerous problems



# The Story of the Week

## SEASON'S GREETINGS!

This is the last issue of the *American Observer* to appear before the Christmas holidays. The next issue of the paper will be dated January 5, 1959. We wish our readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

## Major Highlights Of the Year 1958

**January.** Uncle Sam put his first earth satellite—Explorer I—into orbit.

**February.** Egypt and Syria combined to form United Arab Republic. Yemen became associated with UAR in March.

**March.** Americans on jobless rolls climbed to more than 5,000,000—a record for post-World War II period. Employment picked up late in summer.

America's second and third satellites were shot into space.

**April.** World's Fair opened in Brussels, Belgium. Millions of people from all corners of the globe visited fair before it closed in October.

**May.** Moscow launched world's biggest earth satellite, weighing around 3,000 pounds.

**June.** General Charles de Gaulle became Premier of France, after many years of unstable government there. He drew up new constitution providing for strong executive.

Congress completed action on Alaska statehood bill June 30.

**July.** Western-Soviet talks began in Geneva, Switzerland, on plans to end nuclear tests. A plan was prepared by conferees in August.

Iraq's government was overthrown and pro-western King Faisal was cruelly assassinated.

Britain sent troops to Jordan, and the United States sent forces to Lebanon to prevent spread of bloodshed there. Troops were withdrawn in October.

**August.** Special meeting of UN General Assembly to deal with Middle East crisis. UN approved Arab plan for closer cooperation among lands there.

Atomic submarine *Nautilus* made history's first undersea crossing of North Pole August 3. Later followed by *Skate*, also an atomic sub.

Red Chinese guns stepped up shelling of offshore Nationalist islands. The Reds have kept up bombardment off and on, since then.

**September.** Sherman Adams, Assistant to President Eisenhower, resigned under fire after receiving gifts from businessman Bernard Goldfine. Adams denied any wrongdoing.

Number of schools were closed in Arkansas and Virginia over classroom integration controversy.

France approved new De Gaulle constitution.

**October.** Pope Pius XII died. New head of Roman Catholic Church—Pope John XXIII—was chosen October 28.

Uncle Sam sent missile toward the moon, which went a third of way to target.

Western-Soviet talks began in Geneva to put nuclear test-ban into effect. No results as yet.

**November.** Democrats won majority of seats in Congress and state governorships in November 4 elections. Alaska also went Democratic in first vote as state November 25.

Moscow stirred up new trouble in Berlin (see page 1 story).

Soviet-western talks began in Geneva on plans to safeguard against a sneak nuclear attack by one nation against another. No agreement as yet.

**December.** Presidential election to be held in France December 21. De Gaulle expected to be winner.

International Geophysical Year (IGY) ends December 31. Under IGY, world scientists cooperated to make extensive study of earth and space around it.



**ALASKANS**, in first statehood election, chose 2 U. S. senators and 1 representative to Congress, as well as a governor and other state officials. The 4 top winners above—all Democrats—are (from left): Edward Bartlett, senator; Ralph Rivers, representative; William Egan, governor; and Ernest Gruening, senator.

## Davis Cup at Stake In Australian Matches

America's best amateur tennis players are in Australia for some stiff international competition. To the winning nation will go the Davis Cup. This trophy is awarded each year to the country with the best men's tennis team.

The United States faces a hard fight. A few days after this paper reaches its readers, our squad must play preliminary matches against the Italian team, which is a good one. The winner will then meet the Australian team in the finals right after Christmas.

U. S. players in this month's action will be chosen from the following:

**Hamilton Richardson.** Our most experienced player, this native of Louisiana has recently been plagued by physical ailments, and may not be at his best.

**Alex Olmedo.** A native of Peru, he is eligible to play on our team since he has lived in the United States for at least 3 years, and since Peru has no Davis Cup squad.

**Barry MacKay.** A rangy young man from Dayton, Ohio, MacKay made a good showing on last year's Davis Cup team.

**Earl Buchholz.** The 18-year-old youth from St. Louis, who is our national junior champion, played sensationally in warm-up tournaments last month in Australia. He is considered America's outstanding tennis prospect for the future.

The Aussies have held the Davis Cup for the past 3 years. Their big guns include:

**Ashley Cooper.** He holds both the U.S. and British singles titles.

**Mal Anderson.** He won the U. S. championship in 1957 and was runner-up again this year.

## World's Great Scientific Adventure Soon to End

On December 31, the greatest scientific adventure in history comes to an end. On that day, the International Geophysical Year 1957-1958 (IGY) will be over. Scientists will finish most of the big projects they have been working on since July 1957, when IGY officially began. But a few projects will continue past the closing date.

Under the IGY program, more than 10,000 scientists from 67 nations, including Russia, studied the earth and the space around us. It will take years of sifting and study before the experts can reach conclusions on their many findings. The knowledge gained will help answer numerous puzzling questions about navigation, communications, and the weather.

Here are some of the findings of IGY studies reported so far:

**Antarctica.** The frozen continent may be separated by a deep sea of ice. Atmospheric conditions in Antarctica influence weather in many parts of the globe. During IGY explorations, British scientists made the first overland crossing of the frozen continent, and Americans made the first airplane landing at the South Pole itself.

**Oceans.** New currents were discovered deep below the surface of the high seas which may affect our weather and determine the number of fish in the oceans. Great underwater mountain ranges were discovered in the southeast Pacific and the Arctic.

**Space.** In man's first steps into space, scientists found that the atmosphere at high altitudes is several times as dense as was once believed. It was also learned that a thick band



Richardson



Olmedo



MacKay



Buchholz



Cooper



Anderson

## ADDITIONS FOR YOUR STATE CHART

Normally, U. S. senators are elected for 6 years, and their terms are arranged in such a way that approximately a third of them are up for re-election every 2 years. That's why the new state of Alaska's senators are to have staggered terms of office to prevent a "bunching up" of Senate elections in any given year.

How will this be done? At the opening of Congress early in January, Senate leaders will put 3 slips of paper in a hat, with 2, 4, or 6 years written on them. Alaskan Senators Ernest Gruening and E. L. (Bob) Bartlett will then each draw a slip of paper from the hat (the remaining slip will be disregarded). The number on the paper drawn by each senator will decide the length of his term on Capitol Hill!

When this information is known, we shall print it for use on our chart—"The United States in Facts and Figures." Meanwhile, here is some other information which may be clipped out of this paper and pasted on the chart.

<b>For Alaska</b>	<b>Governor</b>	<b>William Egan</b> Dem.—1962
	<b>Senate members</b>	<b>Ernest Gruening—D</b> <b>E. L. (Bob) Bartlett—D</b>
	<b>House parties</b>	<b>D—1</b>
<b>For Nebraska</b>	<b>Governor</b>	<b>Ralph Brooks</b> Dem.—1961
<b>For Illinois</b>	<b>House parties</b>	<b>D—14</b> <b>R—11</b>

MEMBERS OF U. S. AND AUSTRALIAN DAVIS CUP TENNIS TEAMS



of cosmic rays extends from 600 miles above the earth to some 10,000 miles into space.

In addition, scientists learned new information about eruptions on the sun (sunspots), and how the force of gravity varies in different parts of the globe.

### Stevenson and Drummond Speak Out on Russia

Democratic Party leader Adlai Stevenson and newsman Roscoe Drummond have recently made some interesting comments on Russia and her policies.

Mr. Stevenson, who visited the Soviet Union last summer, says it is folly for us to wait for the collapse of the Red regime in Russia. Our best hope for a peaceful world, he points out, is that Moscow will eventually change its aggressive ways and settle down to live in peace with the non-communist nations. He adds:

As a new generation of Russians trained in science and the professions grows up in the Soviet Union, it will replace the old fanatic revolutionaries who now hold positions of power. These younger Russians are likely to be less dedicated to world revolution and strife than are the present Red bosses. This change, along with improved living standards in the communist nation, may make Moscow less of a trouble-maker in time.

Mr. Drummond feels we must get accustomed to the idea that the Reds will constantly stir up trouble around the globe to keep us off balance—at least for some years to come. He says:

We need to realize that the Soviet leaders employ a "let's keep things stirred up" policy as a part of their dealings with other nations. Early communist leaders, such as Lenin, called for a "permanent revolution" against non-communist societies, and the Soviet government has long been engaged in carrying out such a policy.



**HEADLINERS in Africa (from left):** General Ibrahim Abboud, who ousted leaders of Sudan's republic and, with army support, took control into his own hands; Premier Sékou Touré of Guinea and Prime Minister Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana—who plan a confederation of their lands (which are 400 miles apart) hoping that other free countries of Africa will also join.

Of course, we must stay on our guard and always be prepared for war, Mr. Drummond continues. But we will only weaken ourselves if we become panic-stricken every time Moscow decides to stir up a new "crisis" in one of the world's many trouble spots.

### Too Much Secrecy in Nation's Decisions?

How can our foreign and defense policies be adequately debated by our elected leaders without harmful leaks of vital information to our enemies?

That question is being widely debated following a new report of the Twentieth Century Fund—a private, non-profit research group. The report, written by military historian Walter Millis and other prominent Americans, bluntly says that the President and his appointees make crucial decisions affecting our future behind a "veil of secrecy." It continues as follows:

"Our elected members of Congress often don't know anything about vital government decisions until after they have been made by Presidential ap-

pointees. Then it is usually too late to make any changes in our policies. Such a practice takes away from our elected representatives their most important function—that of shaping policies to guide the nation at home and overseas."

Americans who disagree with the report's conclusions make the following argument:

"In these highly dangerous times when we are fighting for our very lives against the global menace of communism, certain actions must be taken swiftly and without public debate by our nationally elected President and his advisers. Otherwise, we might act too slowly to avert serious trouble for us. Also, lengthy discussion of important issues might lead to leaks of vital information to our enemies."

### Uncle Sam Is Still Reaching for the Moon

America's next shot at the moon may come late this month or early in January. It will be the second try at reaching the moon with rockets developed by the U. S. Army. The first of this series, fired less than 10 days ago, reached a height of some 66,000 miles on its way to the moon.

Our latest effort in this direction was the second time that American scientists had sent an object into the skies toward the moon. In October, a missile powered by Air Force rockets soared more than 70,000 miles—about a third of the way to the earth's nearest space neighbor.

Meanwhile, Uncle Sam has even more ambitious space projects planned for the coming year. They include "Project Discoverer" for sending 1,300-pound satellites spinning around the globe. The purpose of these satellites—some of which may contain mice, monkeys, or some other living creatures—is to develop new observation weapons against a sneak enemy attack. Many other space shots, including some new probes of the moon, are also in the offing for 1959.

### Garcia Makes Friendly Call on the Japanese

It was a history-making occasion when Philippine President Carlos Garcia landed in Tokyo, Japan, not long ago. He was the first President of his country ever to visit Japan, and Japanese Emperor Hirohito, Prime Minister Nobusuke Kishi, and other

top leaders of the host nation were on hand to greet their distinguished guest. It was the biggest welcome that Japan ever gave to a foreign visitor, according to newsmen on the scene.

President Garcia, made his visit to boost Japanese-Philippine trade and to cement closer ties between the 2 countries. He was also returning a visit made by Prime Minister Kishi to the Philippines a year ago.

It hasn't been easy for the 2 countries to create friendly feelings, for many Filipinos find it difficult to forget Japan's brutal invasion of their land during World War II. Nevertheless, present leaders of both nations are determined to forget the past and work together for prosperity and protection against the expansionist moves of Red China.

Japan and the Philippines are major outposts of democracy in the Far East. Hence, the entire free world has a stake in the outcome of current efforts by the 2 countries to achieve friendly cooperation.

### Changes Being Made In Farm Controls

Last summer, Congress passed a law giving the nation's corn growers a choice between (1) continuing with a plan under which farmers can plant only a specified number of acres of corn in return for a relatively high "support price" (the price Uncle Sam pays for crops that cannot be sold on the regular market), or (2) an end to planting restrictions, in which case the government would not support corn prices at as high a level as it has been doing.

Not long ago, the farmers chose the second plan by a 3 to 1 majority. Under the new program, growers will be free to plant as much corn as they wish, but federal support prices are expected to drop from the old level of \$1.36 to \$1.12 a bushel.

Does the farm vote mean there will soon be other changes in the nation's agricultural policies? Will the farmers and the nation be better off under the new plan? Or will production of corn, minus crop restrictions, go so high that Uncle Sam will have to spend even more than before to buy up the surplus grain despite a cut in the support price for this crop?

We shall discuss these and other questions in detail when the farm issues are debated in Congress.

## THE LIGHTER SIDE

Smith and Green, 2 big-game hunters, were arguing about their shooting skill. "I'll bet you \$10 I can go out and bag a lion," said Smith.

Ten minutes later a lion poked his head through the tent. "Do you know Smith?" he asked.

"Yes," said Green, trembling. "He owes you \$10," said the lion.

A fiery-tempered executive returned to his office after a vacation in California

and was approached by one of his employees.

"If you don't mind, sir," said the fellow meekly, "is it all right for me to start my vacation next week?"

"Are you crazy?" boomed the executive. "I was away for 4 weeks. Wasn't that enough of a vacation for you?"

What this country needs is a special encyclopedia with blank pages for the guys who know everything.

An optimist is wrong as often as a pessimist, but he has a lot more fun.

Baseball players are asking for a 20% slice of every dollar their employers take in.

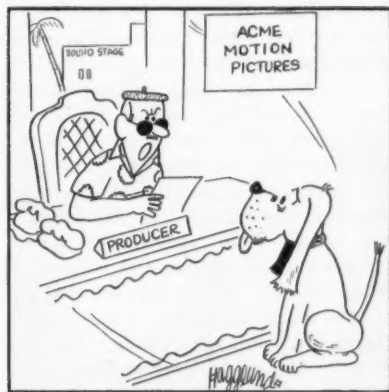
It's not a new idea. Internal Revenue thought of it years ago.

Boy friend: See that big fellow playing football? I think he'll be our best man next year.

Girl friend: Oh, darling, this is so sudden.

Sign on small service station at edge of a western desert:

"Don't ask us for any information. If we knew anything, we wouldn't be here."



"You're through—turn in your bones."



# U.S. Traffic Safety Programs

(Concluded from page 1)

a civilian traffic association helps officials to organize publicity campaigns for the purpose of urging caution on the streets.

Mechanical improvements help make driving easier and safer in Detroit. Expressways—more efficient than ordinary streets—are being extended. Traffic signals and left-turn lanes are being increased in number. Twice yearly, the city's 130 miles of guide lines on streets are freshly painted.

In 1957, for the second consecutive year, Detroit was given the National Safety Council's highest approval—an Award of Honor—for outstanding success in preventing accidents. Another Michigan city, East Lansing, also received this topmost award for the second year.

**Oklahoma City, Oklahoma** (population 275,000). After accidents on its streets took 31 lives in 1945, this alarmed city looked for ways to better conditions. A program was carried out by the Oklahoma City Safety Council, and the yearly average of deaths in traffic has been cut by about a third in the past 12 years.

Official agencies and citizen groups work together. Truck operators, for example, meet once a month to exchange ideas on driving safety. The city's Traffic and Transportation Commission carries on continuing studies of ways to improve driving and parking conditions on the streets.

Driver education courses are provided in all the public high schools. Student committees, with a minimum of faculty supervision, direct safety projects in each school. Students also participate in a city-wide Student Safety Council, and in an annual county-wide Teen-Age Safety Conference.

Newest of student safety projects in Oklahoma City is "Back the Attack on Traffic Accidents." Under this program, each school may fly a pennant from its flagpole so long as traffic vio-

lations by its students are kept below a certain number. A trophy goes to the school with the best yearly record.

**Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania** (population 683,000) has reduced traffic fatalities from an all-time high of 198 deaths in 1930 to an average of 55 a year during the last 7 years. Education for safety is given much of the credit for the lessened fatality rate.

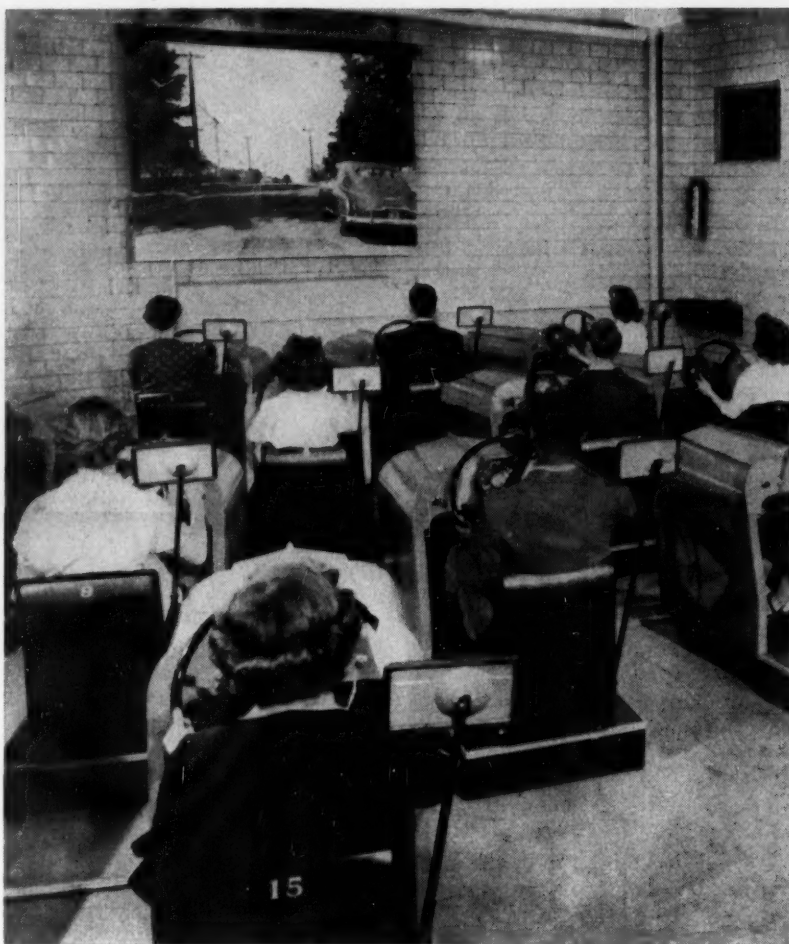
In 1957, for example, Pittsburgh courts sent 800 traffic violators to its safety school, which police direct 2 evenings a week. Many car owners attended the classes voluntarily along with the violators. One taxi company requires all new drivers to take the safety course.

As in numerous other cities, safety patrols for Pittsburgh schools are equipped with badges, armbands, raincoats, and record books. Each September, the city conducts a Patrol Captains' Camp—a 3-day training session for student patrolmen, plus free tickets to a Pittsburgh Pirates baseball game.

Safety promotion by Pittsburgh's Better Traffic Committee in a recent year included tens of thousands of posters and caution strips for car bumpers, 900 newspaper cartoons, 10,000 drivers' safety kits, and many radio-TV programs. One weekly radio program, called "It Pays to Know," offered prizes to audience listeners who correctly answered traffic questions.

**Chicago, Illinois** (population 3,700,000) had fewer traffic fatalities on record in 1957 than in any year since 1916. The 1957 fatality toll was 318, and the year was the fifth in a row to show a decline in traffic deaths.

City officials say that Chicago's record of recent years has not been achieved by miracles, but is the overall result of a broad safety program begun in 1948. Law enforcement, education, and engineering have all played a part in this venture. New traffic laws enacted in 1957 provided stiffer penalties for violations and have



IN SOME HIGH SCHOOLS, students learn good driving practices by watching movies of highway traffic as a guide for operating "car" drivotrainers

caused many drivers to handle their cars more carefully than in the past.

"Enforcement of the law is the greatest deterrent to law-breaking, life-taking driving," a Chicago police officer said. With a big enforcement drive under way last year, Chicago police made 55,000 more arrests than in 1956 for traffic violations.

Engineering improvements include new high-powered lights along 114 miles of heavily traveled streets, and synchronization of 1,800 traffic signals to speed cars quickly and more safely.

Community groups carry on intensive safety education programs.

**Wausau, Wisconsin** (population 34,000) is one of the few cities that went through 1957 without a single traffic fatality. Its rate of accidents has declined steadily during the past 3 years.

Wausau's traffic supervisor, Arthur Bickler, has this to say about his city's safety program:

"The adoption of a model traffic code in 1939 was a basic step. It gave us sound laws, and we enforce them around the clock. Our police have learned to use good judgment in issuing tickets. They do not just hand out tickets automatically for every minor error. Instead, they crack down on drivers who consistently endanger themselves and others.

"We keep detailed records of all accidents. These help us to locate the chief danger spots on the streets, and thus guide us in making engineering improvements. On one city street, for example, we found that an increased speed limit would be helpful.

"Wausau schools make safety a substantial part of each person's education. Patrolwomen at crossings near schools have increased protection for pedestrian students. We now have a drivers' improvement school. Traffic violators have the choice of paying a fine or of losing driving privileges until they have gone through the school.

"Traffic officials meet with civic and business organizations to plan for greater safety. Everyone is expected to take part in the effort to cut the accident toll."

For its outstanding record, the National Safety Council gave a 1957 Award of Merit to Wausau. (Other cities receiving this award, the Council's second highest, were Baker, Oregon; Bristol, Virginia; and Richland, Washington. Baker won the award for the second consecutive year.)

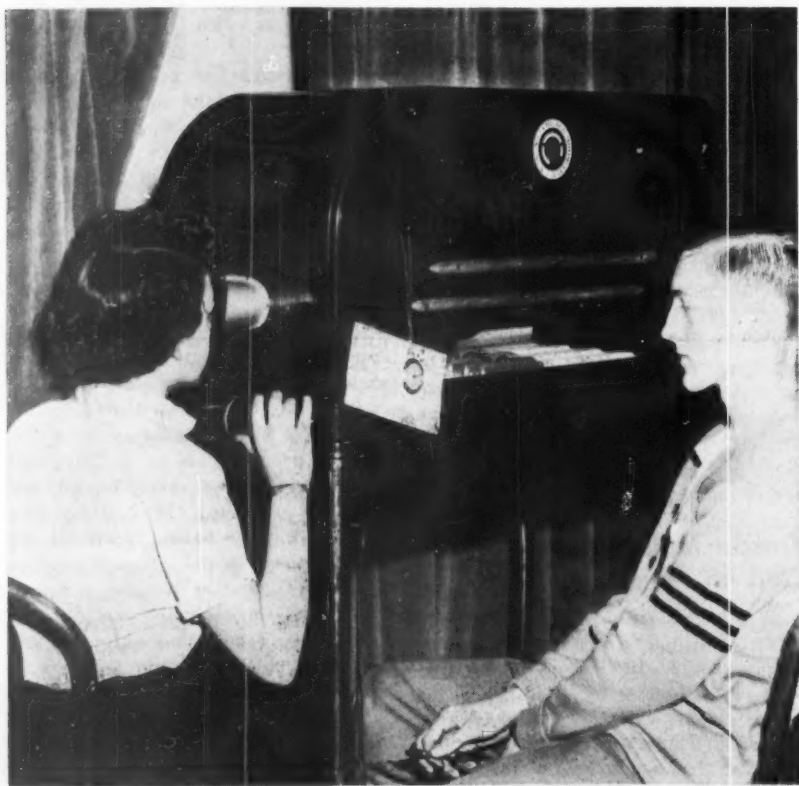
AAA, the American Automobile Association, has a keen interest in bringing about safer highways and streets. It is presently aiding communities with a special campaign to educate pedestrians on their obligations in traffic, and to improve methods for protecting them.

The Association recently published a handbook, called "Planned Pedestrian Program," which outlines the following steps for effective community action: Organization, legislation, enforcement, accident records, engineering, school safety training, and public information and education.

The handbook is available from the Association. If you wish a copy, consult your local AAA office or Chamber of Commerce. The price is \$2.

The National Safety Council, of course, is an outstanding leader of the safety movement. Its awards to cities doing good work in this field have already been mentioned. Readers desiring information about community traffic-safety programs, or about accident prevention in the home and in school, may obtain this by writing to the National Safety Council, 425 North Michigan Ave., Chicago 11, Illinois.

—By ERNEST SEEGER



DISTANCE JUDGMENT TEST helps student to measure driving ability in some schools. Student lines up 4 cars through series of mirrors, which give effect of different distances. Machine records slightest errors, which demonstrate that extra caution must be used on crowded highways.

## Answers to Know That Word

1. (d) choice; 2. (a) final proposition; 3. (b) seize; 4. (b) obedient; 5. (b) clear; 6. (c) dictatorial; 7. (a) correct; 8. (d) exaggerated patriotism.





LARGE AREAS of Afghanistan have almost no trees, shrubbery, or other vegetation—as is illustrated by this scene along the famous Khyber Pass, a travel route connecting with Pakistan. Structures above road are lookout stations.



DRAWN FOR AMERICAN OBSERVER BY JOAN ALDEN  
NORTHERN PART of the Arabian Sea is shown at bottom of the map by area with wavy lines.

## Afghanistan -- Mirror of the Past

Changes Are Gradually Coming to This Isolated Nation

(This is the tenth and last in a series of articles on North Africa and the Middle East by Tim Coss, AMERICAN OBSERVER staff member, who visited the area last summer.)

ON the flight from Tehran to Kabul, capital of Afghanistan, our plane flew over the most barren land I have ever seen. Looking out the cabin window, the view consisted solely of sandy-colored terrain, which often rose abruptly into rugged mountains. There were few trees, shrubs, or other signs of life on the countryside below.

Stepping out of the plane at the airport in Kabul, one has the feeling of emerging from a time machine which has just transported him hundreds of years back into history. As a diplomat in that land put it, Afghanistan is progressing rapidly toward the 15th century.

The country, which is about the size of Texas, has 5 miles of railroad and only a few miles of paved roads. There is 1 car for every 26,000 people in this nation of 12,500,000. Even in

the capital city of Kabul, which has about 200,000 inhabitants, many of the streets are dirt, and most transportation is by horse-drawn vehicles.

The only hotel in Kabul does not have a single bath, so that most visitors stay at the International Club, which does have one bath.

The population of Afghanistan is a mixture of many racial stocks. Around Kabul, about 10% of the people appear to be of Chinese origin. Mohammedanism is the predominant religion.

Despite the lack of modern conveniences, or perhaps because of it, Kabul possesses a quality of primitive beauty. The city is surrounded by mountains, on which are long, winding walls and other ancient fortifications once used to protect the people from fierce, marauding tribes.

The main street of Kabul is split by a narrow river. In order to get from one side to the other, it is necessary to cross one of a series of unsteady, wooden bridges. People and animals use the river for bathing.

Both sides of the street are lined

with open shops. Native inhabitants flock to stores selling clothes, metal implements such as pots and pans, and other needed items. Tourists can spend interesting hours at shops selling local antiques which include Khyber rifles (once used by warlike tribesmen in the area of the Khyber Pass), old swords and armor, and coins hundreds or even thousands of years old.

Even though her land is rugged and her people backward, Afghanistan is an important factor in world affairs. That country has a long border in the north with the Soviet Union. If Russia were to gain control of Afghanistan, she would drive a wedge toward the Arabian Sea—a wedge which would come perilously close to separating the Middle East from the rest of Asia.

### Important to Russia

The Soviet Union is well aware of the strategic importance of her southern neighbor. Afghanistan has received more than \$145,000,000 in loans and grants from Russia since the end of World War II. This amounts to almost 8% of Russia's total foreign aid expenditures during that period.

The United States, although not matching the Soviet figure, has spent more than \$60,000,000 in Afghanistan since July 1945.

There were many Russians in evidence in Kabul at the time I was there. They have undertaken the job of paving some of the city's streets, a job which all foreign diplomats stationed in Kabul would like to see completed as soon as possible.

During a talk with one of the cabinet ministers in the Afghan government—which has the framework of a constitutional monarchy but little real democracy—I had a chance to observe the attitude of the rulers of that country toward the United States and Russia.

This official said that his government felt quite friendly toward America. He said that Prime Minister Mohammed Daud had been very favorably impressed by his visit to the

United States early this past summer.

He emphasized, on the other hand, that his country has no choice but to be friendly with Russia. If the Soviet Union chose to overrun Afghanistan, the latter country would be powerless to resist. He significantly added that, although his country was determined not to provoke Russia, it also did not plan on becoming a Soviet satellite.

The attitude of the average Afghan toward his government was hard to determine since only a very small minority of the people can speak any English. Although most of the inhabitants of the country are extremely poor, there may not be much dissatisfaction simply because the country is so isolated. Nasser's propaganda, which has stirred up most of the Middle East, apparently is diminished in force by the time it reaches this remote land.

### Modern Ways Coming

As Russia and the United States vie for Afghanistan's friendship through sending her financial aid and trained technicians, that country will gradually take on more modern ways. When this occurs, and when the people be-

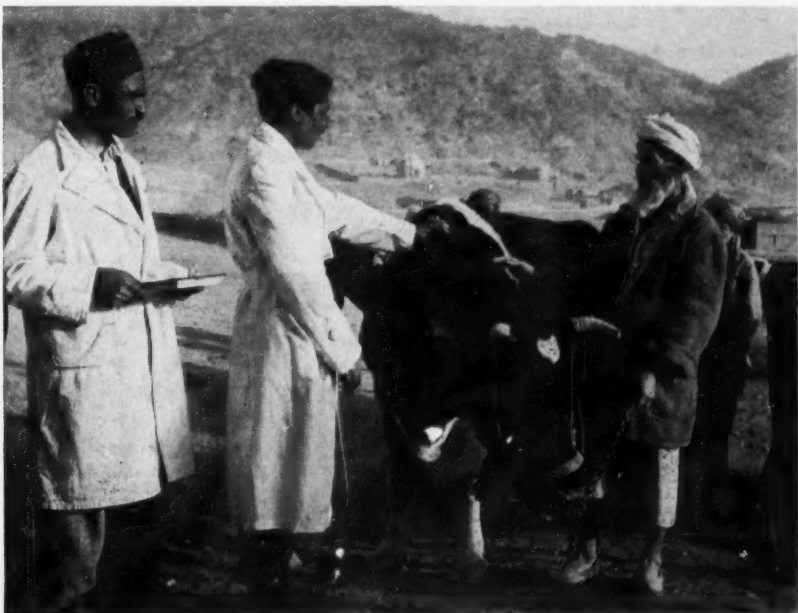


EMBASSY OF AFGHANISTAN  
PRIME MINISTER Mohammed Daud Khan of Afghanistan

come better educated, Afghanistan will begin to exert some influence in world affairs aside from that provided by her strategic geographical position. Until then, the country will remain a little known area and one of the last islands of medieval life existing in the world today.

### Pronunciations

Carlos Garcia—kär'lōs gār-sē'ā  
Charles de Gaulle—shār'l' dūh gōl'  
Hirohito—hē-rō-hē-tō  
Konrad Adenauer—kōn'rāt ā'duh-now-er  
Mohammed Daud Khan—mō-hām'mēd dā-ōd' kân  
Nasser—nās'ēr  
Nikita Khrushchev—nyī-kē'tuh krōsh-chawf  
Sékou Touré—sā'kōō tōō-rā'



CATTLE in Afghanistan being vaccinated against disease in a United Nations project to help assure the country a more abundant, purer supply of milk



## KNOW THAT WORD!

In each of the sentences below, match the italicized word with the following word or phrase which has the same general meaning. Correct answers are on page 6, column 4.

1. Little *option* (ōp'shūn) is given to voters in communist countries. (a) freedom (b) encouragement (c) education (d) choice.

2. The *ultimatum* (ūl'ti-mā'tūm) was sent to enemy headquarters. (a) final proposition (b) messenger (c) reply (d) request.

3. The government threatened to *confiscate* (kōn'fīs-kāt) the illegal goods. (a) auction (b) seize (c) destroy (d) return.

4. The enemy prisoners acted in a *docile* (dōs'il) manner. (a) cheerful (b) obedient (c) quarrelsome (d) cowardly.

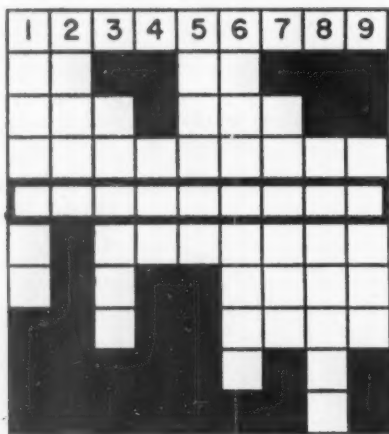
5. The speaker gave a *lucid* (lū'sīd) account of conditions in Asia. (a) pessimistic (b) clear (c) reassuring.

6. *Totalitarian* (tō-tāl'i-tair'i-ān) governments are in power throughout much of the Middle East. (a) democratic (b) unpopular (c) dictatorial (d) pro-communist.

7. The scientists set out to *rectify* (rēk'ti-fī) the mistakes which had been made. (a) correct (b) study (c) discover (d) hide.

8. A wave of *chauvinism* (shō'vin-iz'm) swept the country. (a) sickness (b) fear (c) religious fervor (d) exaggerated patriotism.

## CURRENT AFFAIRS PUZZLE



Fill in numbered rows according to descriptions given below. When all are correctly finished, heavy rectangle will spell the name of a geographical area.

1. Since 1900, the average life span of Americans has increased \_\_\_\_\_ years.

2. During World War II, our troops advanced to the \_\_\_\_\_ River in Germany.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ became an American possession late in the 19th century.

4. The initials of a world-wide project to be concluded at the end of this year.

5. Capital of Afghanistan.

6. U. S. President in office at turn of this century.

7. America's top \_\_\_\_\_ stars are in the late stages of Davis Cup competition.

8. A next-door neighbor of West Germany.

9. President Garcia of the Philippines recently made a goodwill tour of \_\_\_\_\_

## Last Week

HORIZONTAL: Bucharest. VERTICAL: 1. beef; 2. Human; 3. Stockholm; 4. Shah; 5. Standard; 6. French; 7. peso; 8. Alaska; 9. Tehran.



## Readers Say—

Why has American influence diminished so greatly in recent years? Why do the people of other lands distrust us so much, even though we are supplying aid to many countries?

The answers to the questions are vital to all of us. We must make the people of other nations realize that we are not an all-powerful giant whom they must obey. We must show them what America is really like—through friendliness and cooperation in all matters.

LORETTA SCHULTZ,  
Valley City, North Dakota

When Russia unexpectedly put a sputnik into orbit, every school in the United States cracked down on science and mathematics. Maybe the Russians do know more about scientific methods and mathematical analysis, but they don't know how to think for themselves. They are machines of the state. This country represents freedom for the individual.

GINGER HUDSON,  
Duncan, Oklahoma

The article on "Schools in the Olden Days" made me appreciate the opportunity we have for a fine education today, if we can take advantage of it.

IRIS CAIN,  
Parkersburg, West Virginia

Communism discourages initiative and individual thinking. Democracy encourages these qualities—but it is up to the individual to develop them.

RHEA JOAN KREHBIEL,  
Pretty Prairie, Kansas

I think it is pretty low of the Soviet government not to let Boris Pasternak receive the Nobel Prize. Once again, people all over the world should be able to draw conclusions about the communist form of government.

DEAN JOHNSON,  
Carpenter, Iowa

I think that juvenile delinquency would decrease if people would treat us teen-agers like adults, instead of putting us in a separate group.

BETTY SJOHOLM,  
Shelton, Washington

If Red China were represented in the UN she would have a chance to express her views and the United States and other nations could criticize her more effectively than they can now.

ROBIN HOOD,  
Tallahassee, Florida

The Aswan Dam, to be built across the Nile River, is a very good project. It will provide the United Arab Republic with fertile lands as well as electric power. However, I do not think that it is a good idea to let Russia finance this dam, as it will increase Russia's influence in the Middle East.

BRENDA CAMPBELL,  
Richmond, Virginia

## Christmas Every Day — — By Clay Coss

THE Christmas season is here again. Each year, as our nation and others commemorate the birth of Christ, the feeling of goodwill, generosity, and brotherhood is at a peak. This spirit is inspired by the example of Jesus, who devoted and gave His life to the cause of helping others.

Just before Christmas last year, the following item appeared in the letter column of a well-known New York newspaper:

"To that Brooklyn lady who took the frightened, homeless dog into her home: Merry Christmas and God bless you for your kindness. Now, lady, you would make me very happy if you would order the best turkey you can find in Brooklyn, and send me the bill."

The *Nation's Business*, a magazine published in Washington, D.C., had this to say about the letter:

"It is as eloquent a definition of the spirit of Christmas as we hope to find. Christmas is the 'giving' without consideration of 'receiving' . . . the gifts in the stockings with holes in their toes . . . a chain letter of goodwill to men."

"Christmas is doing what no one ever asked you to do . . . 'that little extra something' you do 365 days of the year . . . sentiment without self-consciousness . . . better relations with your associates, prompted by you . . . a tone of voice on the telephone, a

smile instead of a frown, a pat-on-the-back instead of a gripe.

"Christmas is a way to live, a method of running a business, a practical, profitable philosophy. Christmas is the best turkey in Brooklyn."

How true are these words! Giving presents on special occasions, such as Christmas, is an enjoyable custom. But we should make the spirit of giving a vital part of our daily lives rather than a brief display of generosity once or twice a year. The occasional presents given by some individuals can never make up for their failure to give more of themselves each day—to contribute cheerfulness, cooperation, and assistance to those around them.



## News Quiz

### Traffic Safety Projects

1. How is education helping to reduce traffic fatalities?
2. What other methods are being used to deal with the problem?
3. Name five cities with unusually good safety records.
4. What national organization makes annual awards to communities achieving progress in this field?
5. What other well-known association is helping to promote the accident-prevention campaign?
6. How are your school and community participating in these programs?
7. Have accidents been increasing or decreasing in your community?

### Discussion

1. Do you feel that education or strict enforcement of traffic laws is the better weapon to use in preventing accidents?
2. How do you think your community rates with those referred to in our article from the standpoint of effort, interest, and intelligence in combating traffic fatalities?

### Story of Berlin

1. Outline Nikita Khrushchev's demand regarding West Berlin.
2. Explain how the present controversy stems from events of World War II.
3. Why wasn't the Soviet Union able to drive the western allies out of West Berlin in 1948?
4. Compare the Soviet and Allied sections of Berlin today.
5. Why is it believed that Khrushchev raised the Berlin issue at this time?
6. What stakes are involved for the free world in maintaining its position in West Berlin?
7. Summarize the opposing views of U. S. officials on the possibility of dealing with the East Germans.
8. What 2 approaches are being considered for meeting the Khrushchev demand?

### Discussion

1. Do you think it would be in our best interests to negotiate with the Russians on the West Berlin issue? Why, or why not?
2. Do you favor—or oppose—dealing with East German officials if they replace the Russians at check points on the routes to West Berlin? Give reasons for your answer.

### Miscellaneous

1. What are the arguments for and against secrecy in making our nation's big policy decisions?
2. What coveted prize is at stake in tennis matches being played this month in Australia?
3. Name 5 big news stories of 1958.
4. What is IGY, when will it end its work, and what are some results of its studies?
5. How has Uncle Sam changed farm policies regarding corn production? Why?
6. Why did Philippine President Garcia recently visit Japan?
7. List 5 ways in which progress has been made in our country since 1900. What problems have been brought about by some of these changes?
8. Afghanistan is said to be an important factor in world affairs—both to the Soviet Union and to the free world. Why is this true?

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